

expedition and circulate extensively in his old range. I understand Ruf Barringer⁶⁸ called on his passage up the river but for fear of getting lost in this extensive *village*, passed on without even his *Mama's*⁶⁹ knowing he was *out*. Well I shall close forthwith and let me [know] who is elected & all the news. Remember me to every one who may inquire for me, let me know when to look for you.

*Philo White*⁷⁰ to John W. Ellis.

UNC.

Racine [Wisconsin], 27th Sept., 1847.

Too long a period has elapsed since either of us has written to the other; and I am at a loss to determine who is the debtor in the correspondence. I have been very much absorbed during the summer,—a portion of the time absent from home, but mostly I have been laboriously engaged on my Farm. But withal, I have got my fingers into *politics* again: In common with a large portion of our people, I deem it absolutely requisite Wisconsin should immediately assume the dignity of State Government, and took a very active part in favor of the adoption of the lately formed Constitution of State Government. I deplore its rejection; and have taken a stand, that has resulted in my election to the upper House (Council) of the Wisconsin Legislature,—my main desire and object being the hastening of our admission into the Union,—in season, if possible to vote for the *next* President.

⁶⁸Rufus Barringer (1821-1895), graduate of the University of North Carolina, 1842; member of the House of Common from Cabarrus County, 1848; member of the State Senate, 1850; rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the Confederate Army. Ezra J. Warner, *Generals In Gray* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1959), 17, hereinafter cited as Warner, *Generals In Gray*.

⁶⁹Elizabeth Brandon, daughter of Matthew Brandon of Rowan County, married General Paul Barringer on February 21, 1805. Ashe, *Biographical History*, I, 95-100.

⁷⁰Philo White (1796-1883), born Whitestown, New York; editor of the *Western Carolinian* (Salisbury, North Carolina), 1820-1830; founded *The North Carolina Standard* at Raleigh, 1834, and was editor until 1836, at which time he removed to Wisconsin; United States Consul to the Hanseatic Republic of Hamburg, 1849; Chargé d'affaires to the Republic of Ecuador, 1853, raised to the grade of minister resident 1855, where he remained till 1858; his daughter Mary, born 1824, married John W. Ellis, August 25, 1844; she died October 19, 1844. John G. Gregory, "Early Wisconsin Editors, Philo White," *The Wisconsin Magazine of History*, VIII (December, 1924), 170-180.